

4. ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A packet communication device (sending side) sends audio and/or video signals coded by a first coding method and audio and/or video signals coded by a second coding method until the other communicating party gets ready completely when a coding method is switched from the first coding method to the second coding method during communication with the other communicating party. The packet communication apparatus (receiving side) outputs audio and/or video signals decoded by using a second decoding method after decoding processes of the second decoding method corresponding to the second coding method gets stable. Having this construction can prevent the occurrence of noise, turbulence of video, and/or interruption of audio and/or video even when the coding method is switched during communication with the other communicating party.